F

VIEWS

OF THE

GREAT KANSAS RIVER

FLOOD

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

LAWRENCE

May and June

NINETEEN HUNDRED AND THREE

ENGRAVINGS BY
Cenchener-Hartberger Engraving Co.
KANSAS CITY MO.

PUBLISHED BY
F. M. KNIGH
Photographer
LAWRENCE KANS.

Class F
Book L [illegible]
Copyright No.

COPYRIGHT DEPOSIT.

THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS,
Two Copies Received
SEP 8 1903
Copyright Entry
Sept 8-1903
CLASS a XXc. No.
71+83
COPY B.

The Great Flood of 1903.

AS SEEN BY THE CAMERA.

THE stories of the great flood of 1844 as told by the Indians are now taken as true, since the greater flood of 1903. The camera and the printing press preserve what heretofore lived only in the indistinct tales related by the Indians, in half-broken English. The old Delaware Indian chief, Sarcoxie, claimed to have rowed in his canoe from the Jefferson County bluffs on the north to Blue Mound on the south, and this trip could have been duplicated this time.

The first and most enterprising photographer, who secured the best views of the flood was Mr. F. M. Knight. After making over 5,000 prints and being unable to supply the demand, he decided to issue a booklet which has been prepared at great expense and care, and it will doubtless be treasured by future generations.

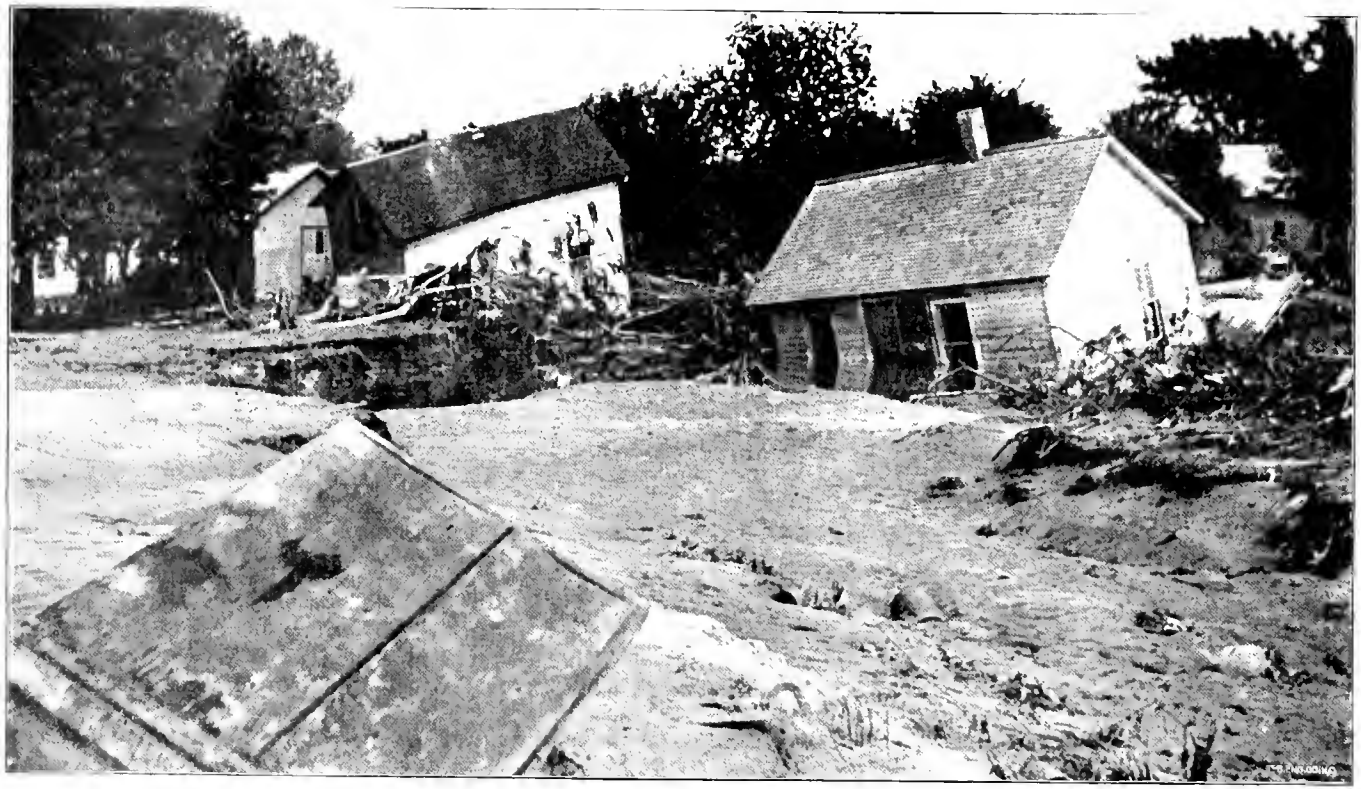
No one who did not witness the ravages and devastation of the flood can realize it. The losses in property, stock and crops in the vicinity of Lawrence is estimated at four million dollars, but fortunately, but two lives were lost here. The fact that the loss of life was so small, is due largely to the heroic and untiring efforts of Mr. G. A. Graeber, familiarly known as "Dolly," and his little gasoline pleasure launch, "Reliance." On page four, "Dolly" is shown standing in his boat, with Sheriff E. E. Meyers and Mayor A. L. Selig on the landing, just entering the boat to cross over to the north side. Without price or hope of reward he ran his little launch, nearly night and day for six long weary weeks, and during that time he transported over 23,000 passengers and 100 tons of provisions. This hero of the hour as soon as the waters had subsided and the Union Pacific pile driver had driven the last sixty-five foot piling in the trestle work across the new channel, returned to his workshop, the same industrious, unconcerned man as before.

There were of course many other heroes worthy of mention, and the public holds them in lasting remembrance. The fishermen along the Kaw known as the "river rats," experienced boatmen, rendered valuable service. The rescue work was made possible by these fearless rivermen, and this is why Lawrence fared so well. We had the men and the boats. It is with deep regret that Mr. Knight is unable to give the names and the pictures of these modest heroes, so that their faces might be preserved in his booklet.

Along the Kaw Valley, all events will now date from the flood, and it will go down in history as the greatest calamity of modern times. To this photographer of the terrible horrors and devastation of the flood of 1903, Mr. F. M. Knight, is due the thanks of this and future generations, for his energy and enterprise in braving the dangers and risking his life so that others might see the sights as preserved by his faithful camera. He is certainly deserving of praise and reward for his successful efforts.

E. MARTINDALE.

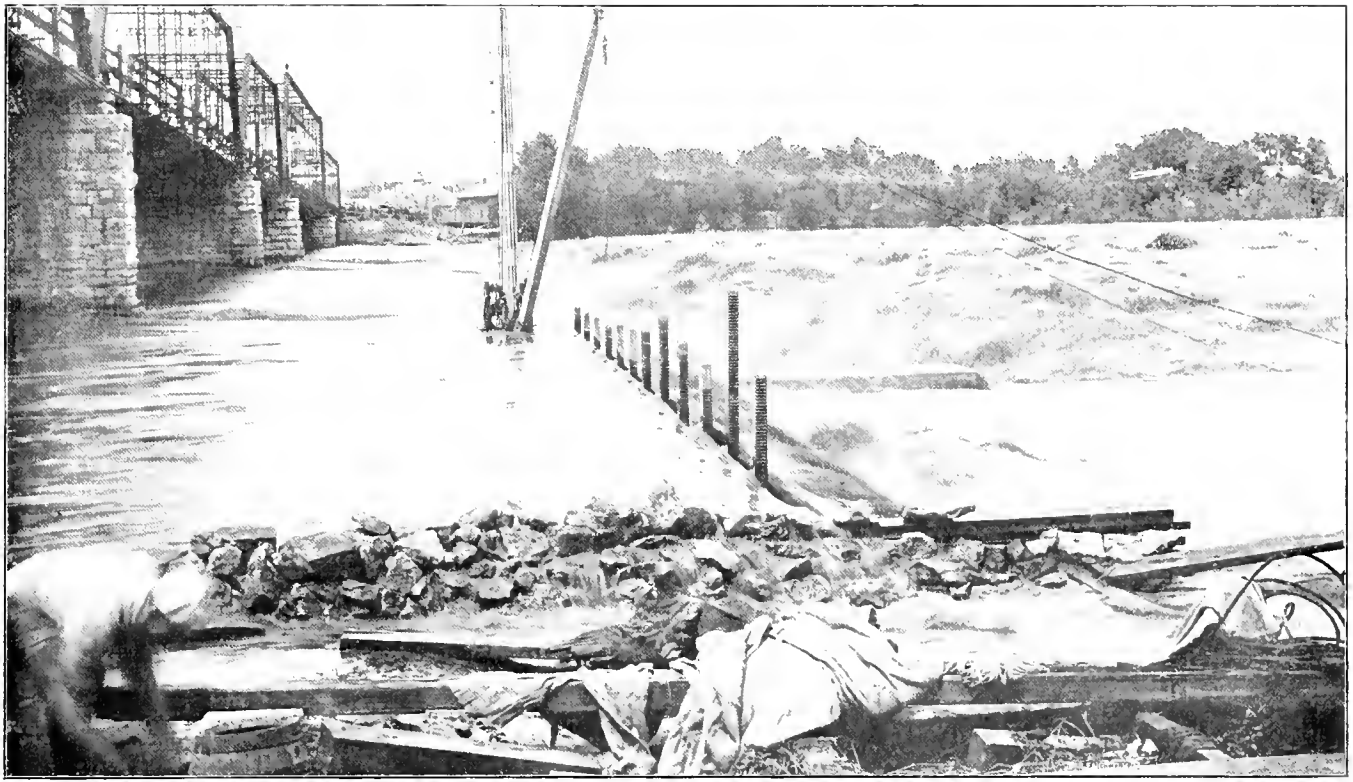
(In Lawrence Daily Gazette, Sept. 4, 1903.)



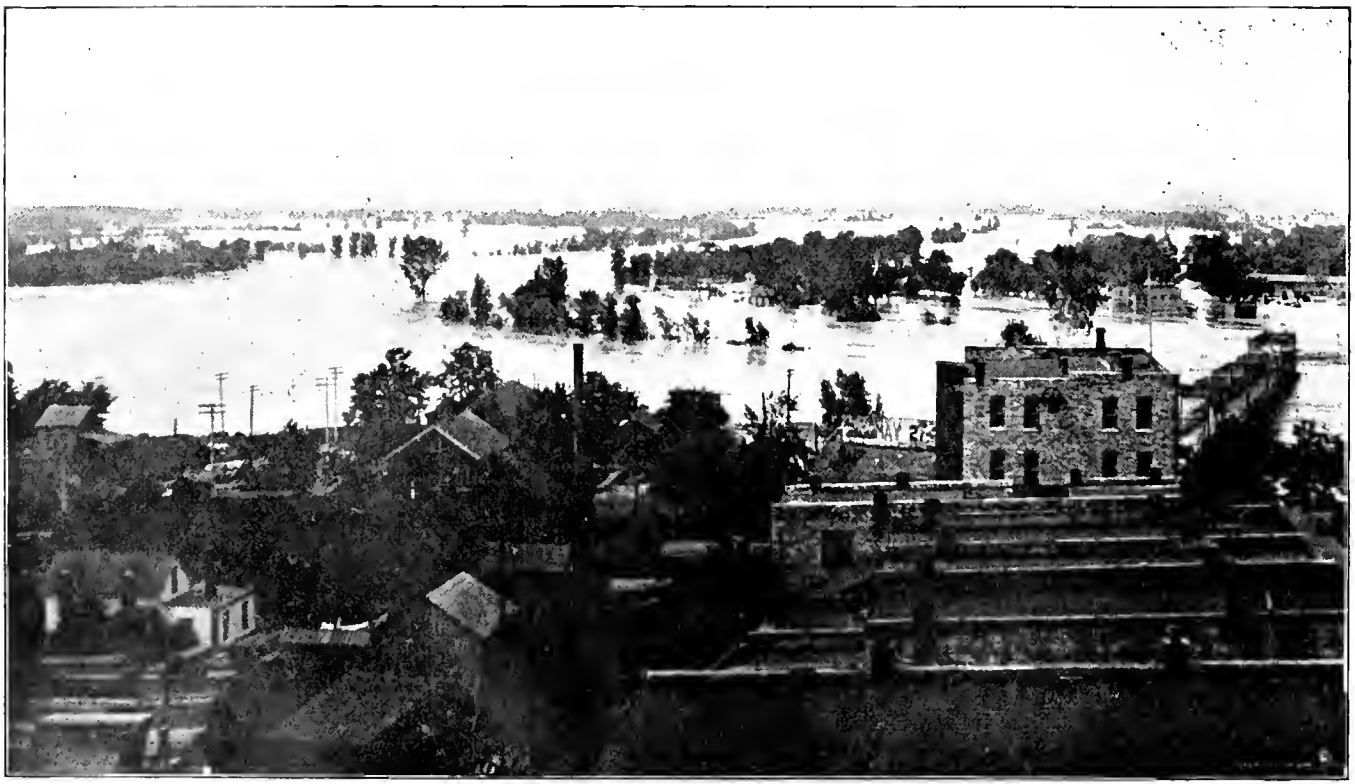
RUINS IN NORTH LAWRENCE.

REMAINS OF BOWERSOCK'S MILL AFTER THE FLOOD.

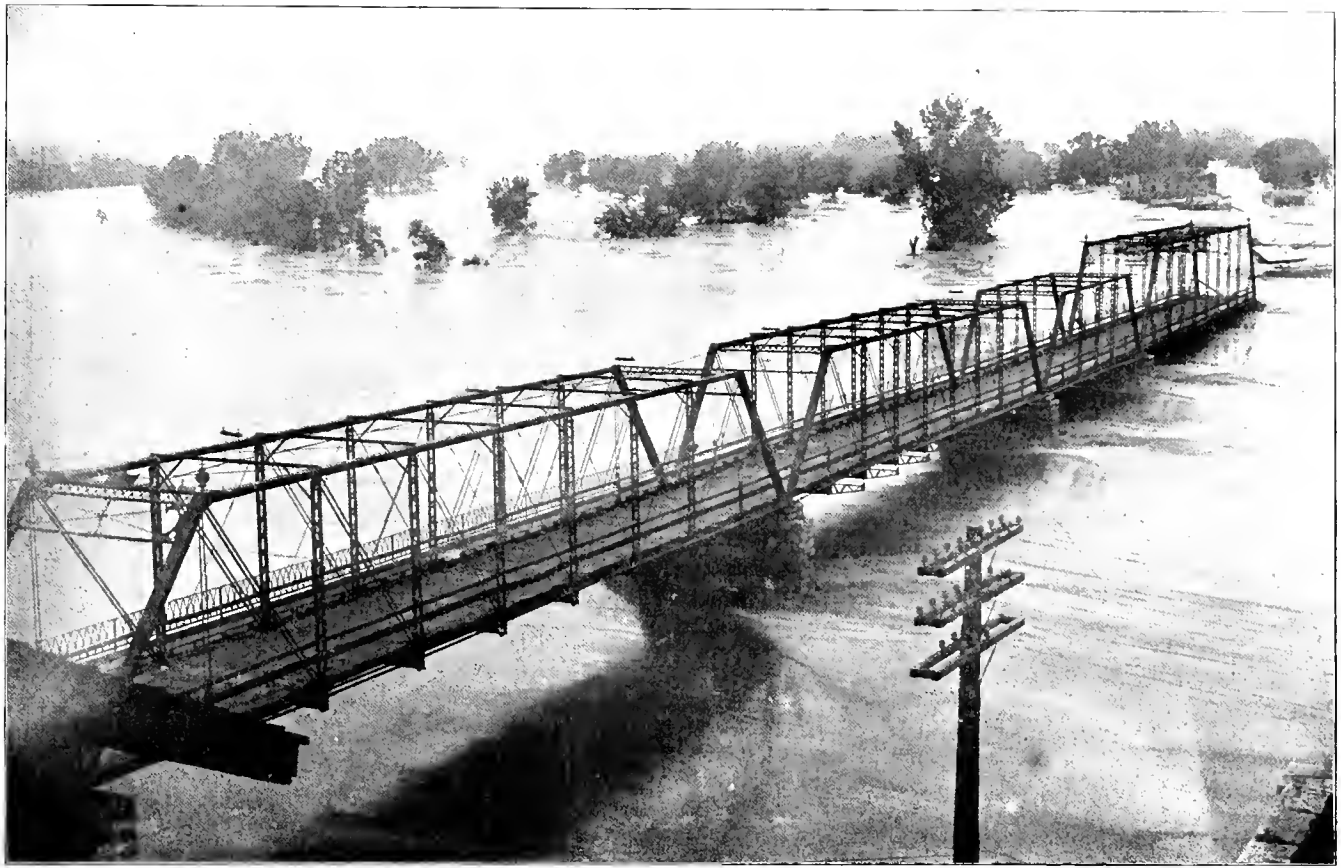
THE HERO OF THE FLOOD—DOLLY GRAEBER IN HIS BOAT—THE RELIANCE.



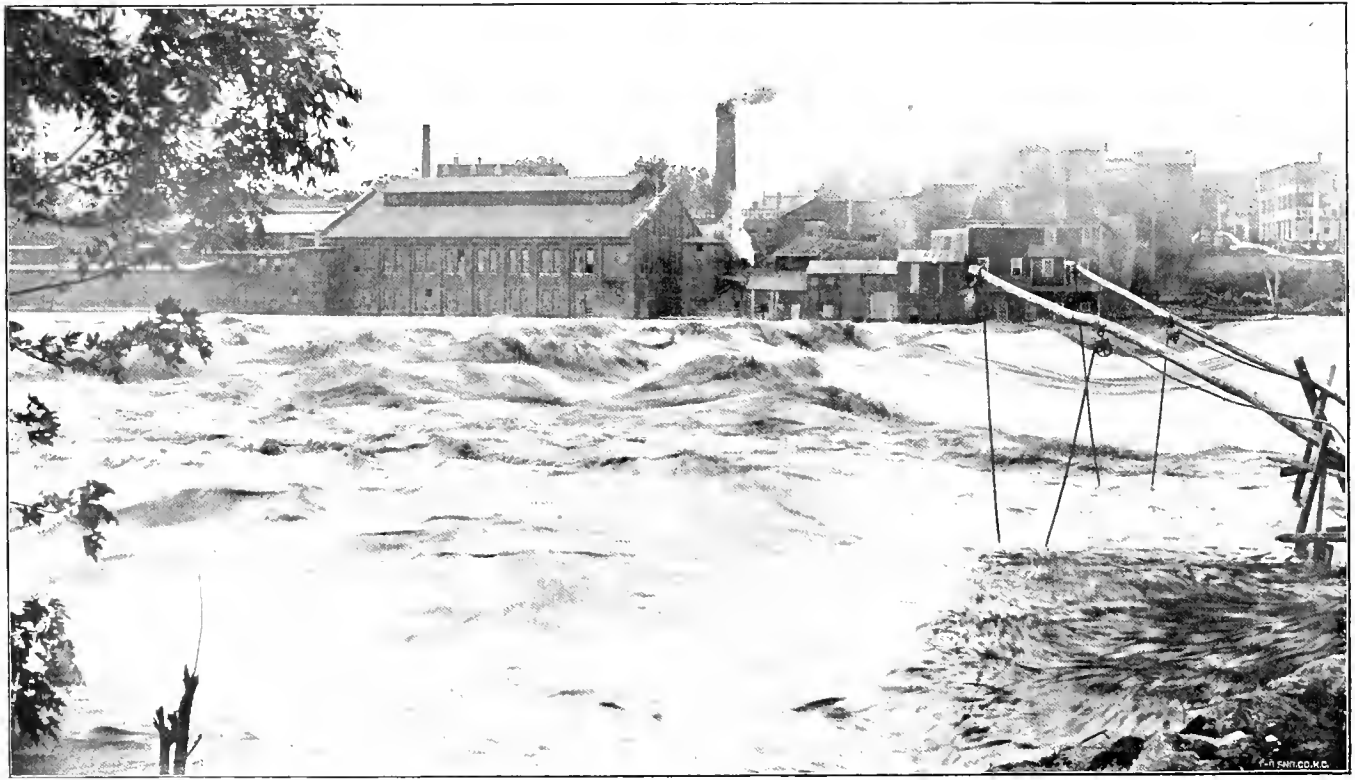
LOOKING NORTH OVER MILL DAM ON FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 29, 1903.



LOOKING NORTH FROM TOP OF THE LAWRENCE NATIONAL BANK BUILDING GIVING BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF A PORTION OF THE FLOODED DISTRICT.



VIEW LOOKING NORTH FROM TOP OF BOWERSOCK'S ELEVATOR SHOWING WEST PORTION OF NORTH LAWRENCE WHERE MOST DAMAGE WAS DONE BY THE FLOOD.

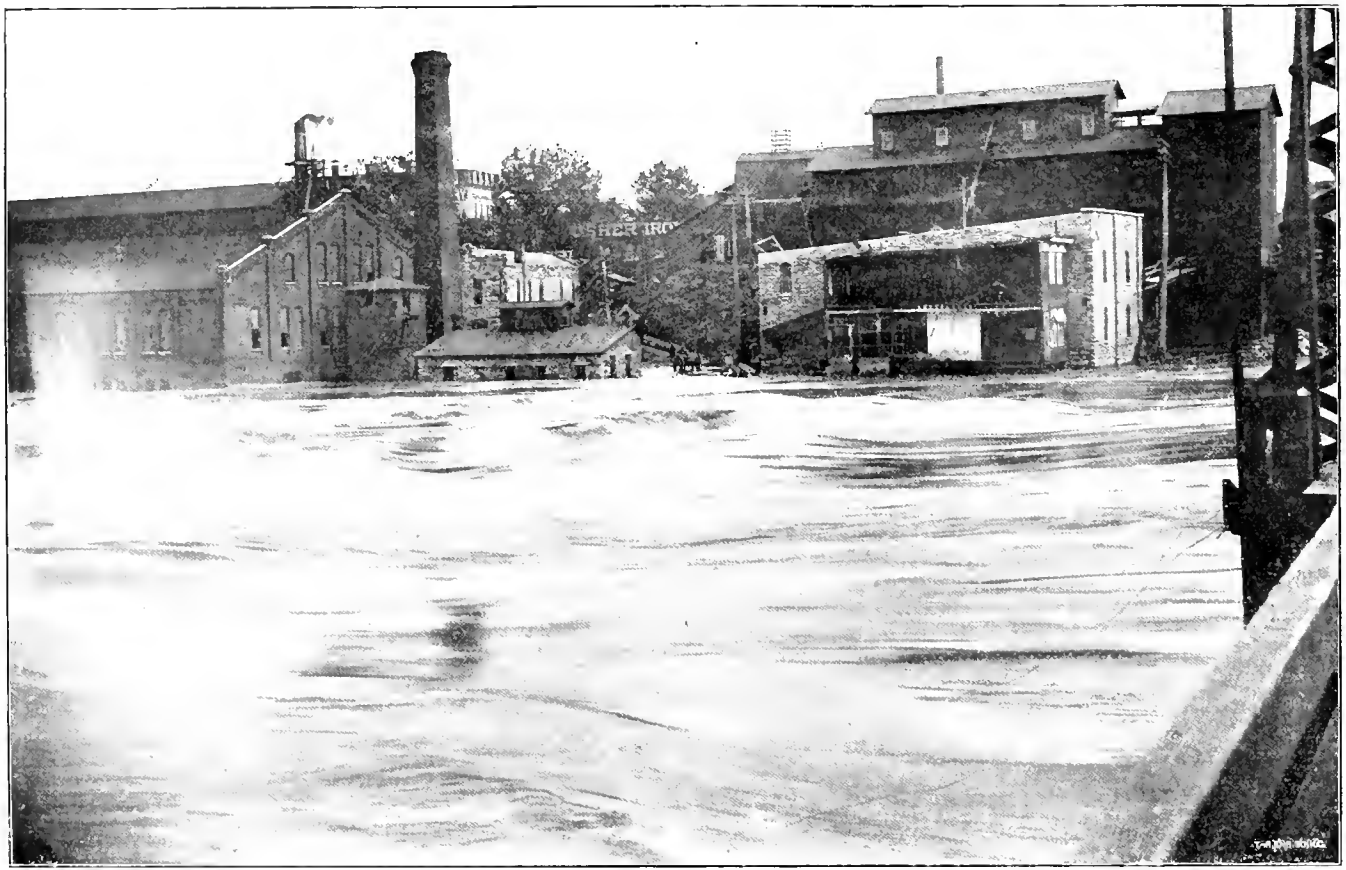


LOOKING SOUTH BELOW MILL DAM—THURSDAY, JUNE 28, 1903—SHOWING BOWERSOCK'S MILL, ETC.

VIEW OF THE MAD WATERS BELOW MILL DAM MAY 28, 1903.

THIS VIEW SHOWS A CAR WITH TWENTY TONS OF COAL—TURNED UPSIDE DOWN—WITH RAILROAD TRACK ON TOP—ON SANTA FE SIDING SOUTH OF WATER WORKS.

UNION PACIFIC DEPOT FROM THE EAST.



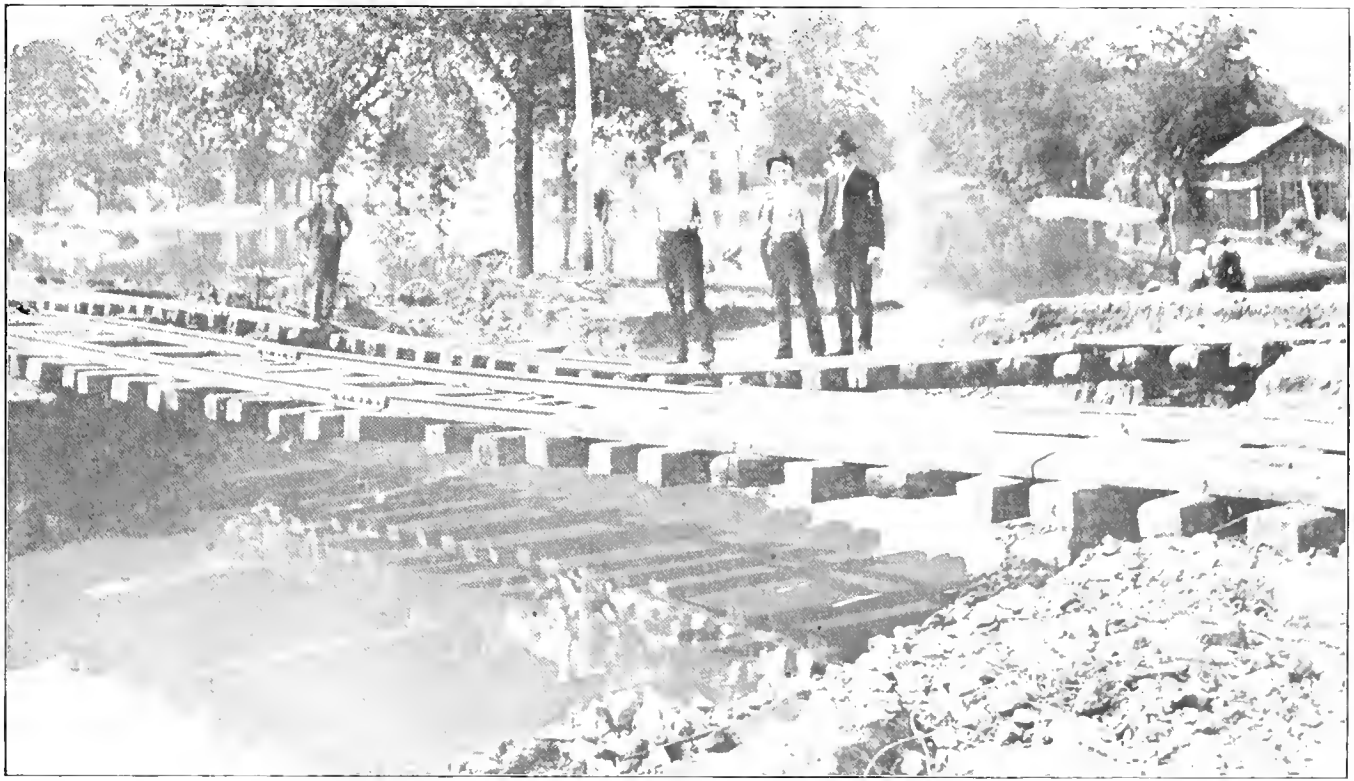
VIEW SHOWS BOWERSOCK'S MILL SITE.

THE BOWERSOCK FLOURING MILL AS IT APPEARED ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES BEFORE IT WAS SWEPT AWAY BY THE FLOOD—DESTROYING OVER $100,000 WORTH OF PROPERTY AND BREAD-STUFFS.

WRECKED HOUSE IN NORTH LAWRENCE.

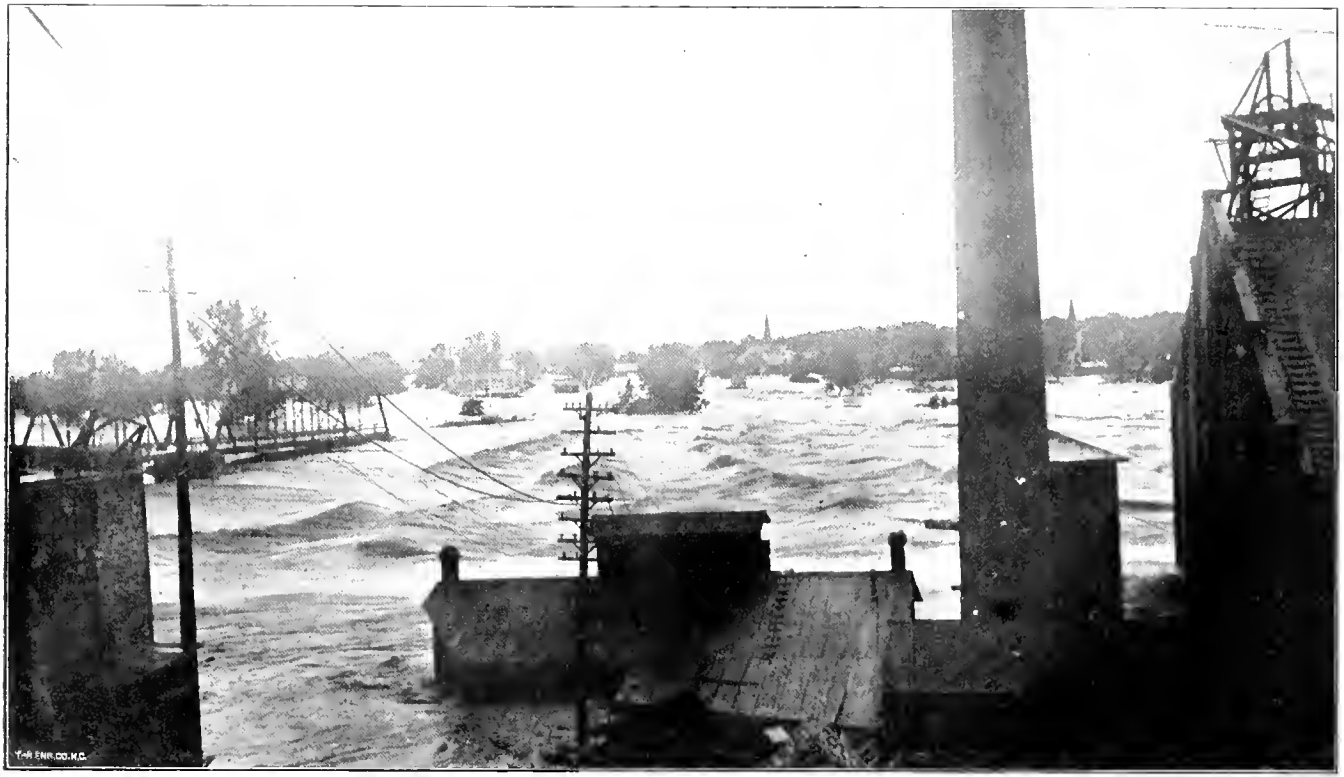
BACK OF BRIDGE STREET—NORTH LAWRENCE—AFTER THE FLOOD.

BACK OF BRIDGE STREET—NORTH LAWRENCE.



UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD TRACK—NORTH LAWRENCE.

VIEW SHOWING NEW NORTH CHANNEL CUT DURING FLOOD WHICH DESTROYED THE PRINCIPAL BUSINESS PORTION OF NORTH LAWRENCE.



VIEW BELOW MILL DAM LOOKING OVER ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT WITH PART OF NORTH LAWRENCE IN DISTANCE.

BRIDGE STREET—NORTH LAWRENCE—DURING THE FLOOD.

HIGH WATER—LOOKING NORTHEAST.

LOOKING WEST ON SANTA FE TRACK BEFORE THE FLOOD REACHED ITS HIGHEST POINT.

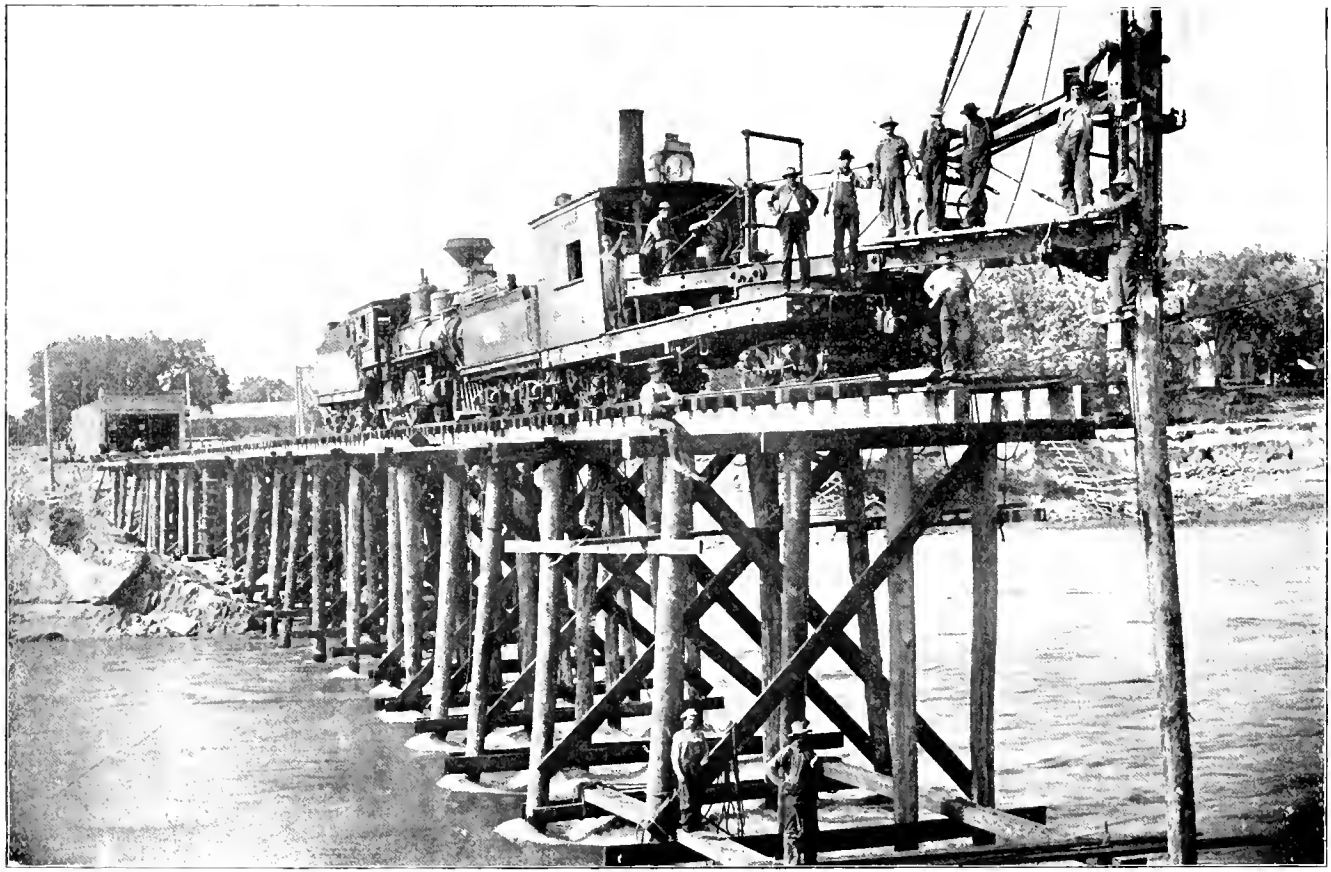
LOOKING NORTHEAST FROM UNION PACIFIC TRACK IN NORTH LAWRENCE SHOWING SUBMERGED BUILDINGS.

BRIDGE STREET—NORTH LAWRENCE—AFTER THE FLOOD.

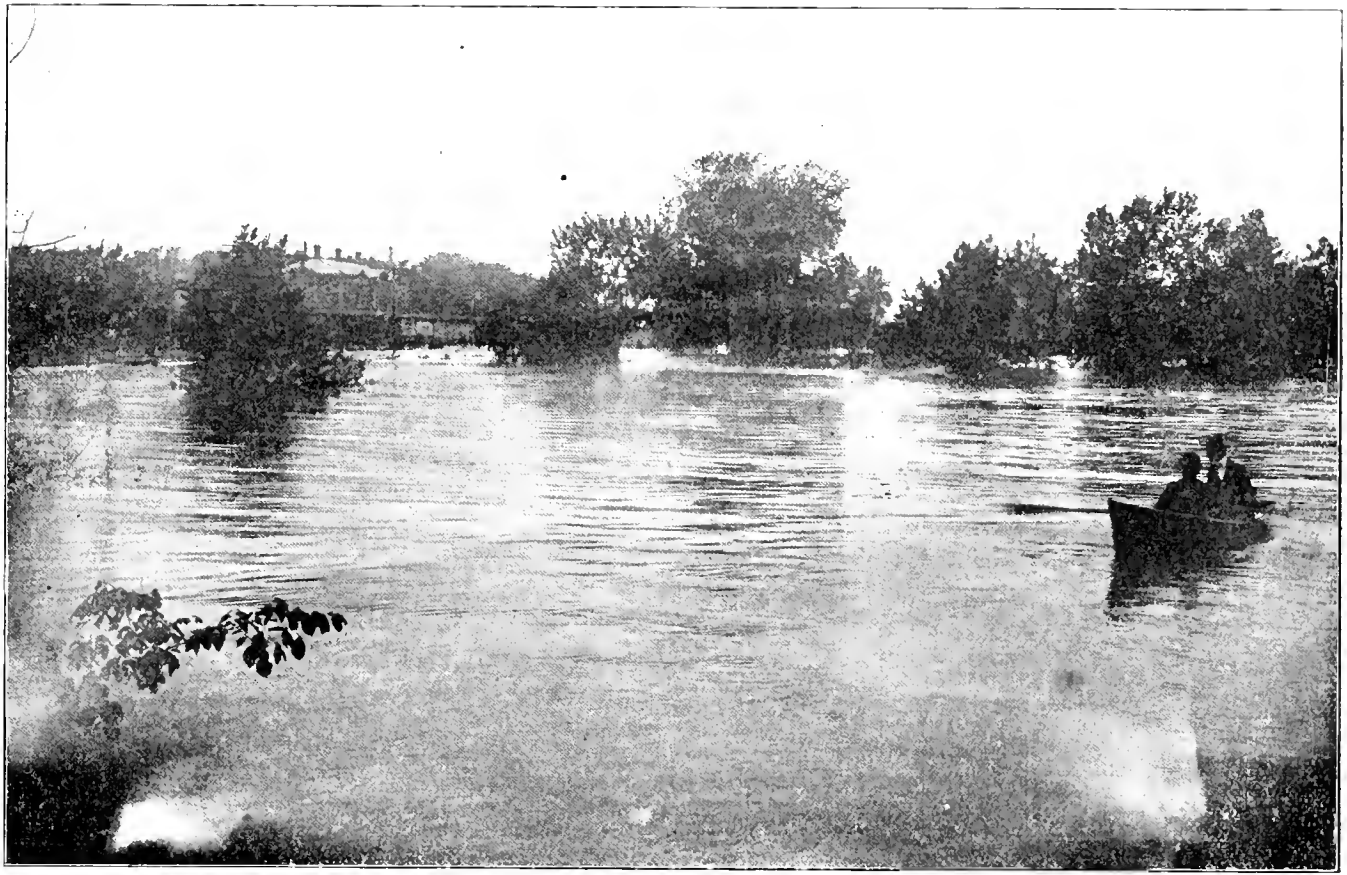
VIEW LOOKING NORTH WHEN FLOOD WAS AT ITS HEIGHT.

VIEW SHOWING THE FERRY ESTABLISHED BY U. S. ENGINEERS FROM FORT LEAVENWORTH—WHICH WAS IN OPERATION ABOUT TWENTY-FOUR DAYS, IN WHICH TIME THEY CARRIED 25,747 FOOT PASSENGERS—1,059 TWO HORSE WAGONS—1,198 ONE HORSE WAGONS—268 COWS, ETC.—BESIDES MANY TONS OF FREIGHT.

LOOKING WEST IN SOUTH LAWRENCE—SHOWING WATER BETWEEN BRICK PLANT AND WATER WORKS—PART OF BRICK PLANT ON LEFT.



UNION PACIFIC PILE DRIVER AT WORK PUTTING IN TEMPORARY BRIDGE OVER NEW NORTH CHANNEL CONNECTING NORTH AND SOUTH LAWRENCE.



LOOKING WEST FROM RESCUE STATION—EAST OF SANTA FE DEPOT.

TAKEN FROM NORTH END OF BRIDGE SHOWING BRIDGE STREET, NORTH LAWRENCE AND UNION PACIFIC PASSENGER DEPOT WITH NORTH APPROACH OF BRIDGE.

SANTA FE DEPOT FROM SOUTHEAST—SHOWING TRAIN FROM OTTAWA—THE ONLY REGULAR TRAIN DURING THE FLOOD.

LOOKING NORTH FROM TOP OF BOENER BROS. CIGAR FACTORY.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
0 016 088 427 7